

EPA ID: NJD039116207 Site Name: ASARCO

State ID:

Alias Site Names:

City: PERTH AMBOY

County or Parish: MIDDLESEX

State: NJ

Refer to Report Dated: 09/01/97

Report Type: Site Inspection Prioritization 001

Report Developed by: Foster Wheeler

**DECISION:**

☒ 1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:

☒ 1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA (No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)

☐ 1b. Site may qualify for action, but is deferred to:

☐ 2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:

2a. Priority: ☐ Higher ☐ Lower

2b. Other: (recommended action)

**DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:**

This site does not warrant further action under CERCLA because of its low HRS score of 0.45 and the lack of evidence that it poses the threat to human health or environment. This HRS evaluation was based on 1996 NJDEPRW report, limited targets, no valid QA/QC nor background sampling. This data was used only to quantify the threat in the HRS score.

**SITE DESCRIPTION** - 68 acres industrial site located on the western shore of Arthur Kill bordering Chevron Oil Co. tankfarm on the north, Crane creek and National Lead (NL) aka Custom Distribution Services (CDS) to the south and State Street to the west. Site is in an industrial area of Perth Amboy and is currently being developed into an Industrial Park. It was used since 1895 to 1994 mainly as a non ferrous metals smelter & refiner. Lead was primary business and some of the process derived waste, including coal slag, fuel oil etc. were disposed or spilled on site. Since 1974 till now there were more than dozen environmental investigations of this site.

**GW PATHWAY** - Site is underlain by two major aquifers separated by a confining layer. Deep aquifer is the aquifer of concern. Both aquifers flow toward Arthur Kill. Potentially there are 577 people using private wells within 4 mile radius from site. Population in near-by communities obtain their potable water from wells located further than 4 miles. GW is not known to be used as a resource nor are there any WHPA within TDL. There is no documented ASARCO-related contamination of the drinking water supplies within TDL.

**SW PATHWAY** - Site is about 80% paved or covered by buildings and roadways. One part of storm run-off drains toward State St. storm drainage system and the other toward Arthur Kill where dilution factor mitigates contamination. Eastern portion of the site is in the 100 year flood zone and the rest is in the 500 year zone. There are no environmentally sensitive areas on site. There are 40 frontage miles of wetlands downstream and upstream of site, because of the tidal effect. Arthur Kill is classified as SE3 water body of water used for fishing and recreation. All SW intakes are outside of TDL.

**SOIL EXPOSURE** - Soil underneath ASARCO is classified as Urban Land. There are approx. nine commercial tenants on site with about 100 workers total. There are no residents, schools, day-care centers, nor environmentally sensitive areas on site nor within 200 ft. from it. Site is fenced. There are approx. 6,500 residents living within one mile from the site, closest residing 0-0.25 mile from it. Surface soil samples collected from limited exposed soil areas indicate inorganic contamination.

**AIR PATHWAY** - Pre-sampling audit of 1986 detected unspecified organic vapors in the vicinity of drainage sumps. There are approx. 150,000 people living within four mile from the site and close to 1,000 acres of wetlands. Closest residents, 31 people, reside within 0.25 mile.

SDMS Document



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Site Decision Made by: ARTHUR STRUICH

Signature:

*Arthur H. Struich*

Date: 11/19/97